



Abstract

Magnetic recording media having a magnetic layer, wherein the magnetic layer comprises a continuous matrix material and a separate portion that is different from the matrix is disclosed. The matrix comprises a non-ferromagnetic material that is non-ferromagnetic in a bulk state. The separate portion comprises a ferromagnetic material and comprises substantially none of at least one component of the non-ferromagnetic material. One embodiment is a dual magnetic layer recording media including a lower magnetization (M_s), exchange decoupled magnetic bottom layer; and a high M_s , high magnetic anisotropy (K_u), magnetic top layer having exchange decoupled grains. This media enables reduced total magnetic layer thickness and higher signal, while maintaining high K_u and low media noise.